

Acts 16:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

Analysis

'They went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.' Despite official request to leave, Paul first strengthened the new church. His priorities were pastoral before political - encouraging believers mattered more than quick compliance with authorities. The visit to Lydia's house shows the church already meeting there.

Historical Context

Lydia's house served as the Philippian church's meeting place. Paul's final encouragement before departure demonstrates apostolic care for young churches. The Philippian church would later strongly support Paul's ministry (Phil. 4:15-16).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How should we balance obedience to authorities with ministry priorities?
2. What does pastoral care look like in crisis moments?
3. How can we strengthen new believers before leaving them?

Interlinear Text

ἐξῆλθον δὲ ἐκ τῆς φυλακῆς εἰσῆλθον εἰς τὴν
departed **And** **out of** G3588 **the prison** **and entered** **into** G3588
G1831 G1161 G1537 G5438 G1525 G1519

Λυδίαν καὶ ἰδόντες τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς
the house of Lydia **and** **when they had seen** G3588 **the brethren**
G3070 G2532 G1492 G80

παρεκάλεσαν αὐτοῦς, καὶ ἐξῆλθον
they comforted **them** **and** **departed**
G3870 G846 G2532 G1831

Additional Cross-References

Acts 14:22 (Parallel theme): Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 16:14 (Parallel theme): And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.